(d) if no action has been taken what are the resaons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It was represented that the Import Policy for Penicillin V was violated in favour of one unit, ignoring the claims of others, and the losses thus incurred by the latter should be compensated.

(c) and (d) The matter has been examined and since no discrimination was noted against these units, the question of compensating them does not arise:

Hike in the expenditure by ONGC during Eighth Plan Period

813. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state; :

(a whether it is a fact that ONGC propose to hike its expenditure during the Eighth Plan period to Rs. 15,000 crores with 50 per cent increase in oil production, if so, what are the considerations, thereof;

(b) whether Government have assessed the economic viability of the new oil fields like Krishna-Godavari basin and Gandhar, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the reasons for not releasing information by ONGC regarding individual oil fields and their potentiality for economically recoverable oil?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) ONGC proposes to increase its crude oil production during the 8th Plan period. The extent of increase and plan outlay required for the same will, however, be decided only after the finalisation of the 8th Plan as a whole.

(b) Assessment of the viability of gas & oil production from new areas like Krishna Godavari is done by the oil companies in the first instance. The economic viability of such projects which need to be approved by the Government is examined after the Project reports are received by the Govt. One project report for Tatipaka Paslarpudi area earlier received by the Govt. is under further examination of ONGC.

As regards Gandhar Oil field in Gujarat, the viability has already been assessed by ONGC and the feasibility report is under process in Government.

(c) The information about reserves production from the individual onshore and offshore fields/structures is treated as confidential and is not divulged in the public interest.

Corruption in Cement Corporation of India

814. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which was published in the Hindu of the 9th February, 1990 captioned "Corruption in Cement Corporations alleged" to the effect that the losses incurred by the Corporation had been suppressed in the Annual Report for 1988-89;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have conducted any enquiry into the matter if so, what are the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Press report purports to refer to the non-inclusion of the incidental expenditure in regard to some plants during the

construction period in the profit and loss account. An amount of Rs. 21.07 crores incurred by the Company has been shown under the head 'incidental expenses during the construction period' in the Annual Report of the Company for 1988-89. The net loss of the Company for the year 1988-89 is Rs. 46.63 crores.

(c) Government have examined the matter. As per the standard accounting practice, the incidental expenditure druring construction period is shown separately in the accounts till commercial production starts. The Comptroller and Auditor General has audited the accounts of the Company for the year 1988-99 and has not given any adverse comments.

Revision of FERA and MRTP Act

815. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to revise the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act and Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and also the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Proposals to amend the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) are under consideration of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs).

No final decision has yet been taken on the proposals to amend the MRTP Act, 1969.

Surrender of funds by National Airport Authority

816. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Airport Authority which is responsible for eficient aviation services has been surrendering funds provided for airport development and maintenance year after year;

(b) if so, what amounts were provided and surrendered every year, during the Seventh Plan period; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDTIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Utilisation of gas in G. S.-16 structure in Andhra Pradesh

817. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by Government to utilise gas in C.S. 16 structure in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether ONGC has negotiated with Andhra Pradesh Government for developing communications in Krishna-Godavari Basin; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The GS-16 structure is located in the Offshors area of the Krishna-Godavari Basin. This structure is presently in the exploratory phase and